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General Assembly

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Agenda item 53 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/64/420/Add.1)*]

64/198. Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, its resolution 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed that the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, would commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2005, and its resolution 59/228 of 22 December 2004,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being,

Recalling the provisions of Agenda 21,[1] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 adopted at its nineteenth special session,[2] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[3] and the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session[4] relating to freshwater,

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] and determined to achieve the goal to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, and the goals set out in the

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[5] See resolution 55/2.

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Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation as well as to develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 7/22 of 28 March 2008[6] and 12/8 of 1 October 2009,[7] on human rights and access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Taking note of national, regional and international efforts to implement the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, and of numerous recommendations from international and regional water and water-related events, with a view to taking concrete actions to accelerate progress at all levels towards achieving the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Taking note also of the holding of the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul, Turkey, from 16 to 22 March 2009, and noting that the Sixth World Water Forum will be held in Marseille, France, in March 2012,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Welcomes* the activities related to the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, undertaken by Member States, the Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, and emphasizes the importance of country-level implementation of the Decade;

3. *Encourages* Member States, the Secretariat, organizations of the United Nations system through their coordination mechanism, and major groups to continue their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals contained in Agenda 21,[1] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[2] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[3]

4. *Welcomes* the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its twelfth, thirteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth sessions on the issues of water and sanitation, and looks forward to any relevant activities of the Commission;

5. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Tajikistan to host, in June 2010, a high-level international conference on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the Decade;

6. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level interactive dialogue of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly in New York on 22 March 2010, World Water Day, on the implementation of the Decade;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous people and other local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels, including its midterm comprehensive review;

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[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[7] See A/HRC/12/50, part one.

[8] A/59/167 and A/60/158.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work of the conference;

9. *Invites* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to actively engage in the preparations for the high-level conference;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with UN-Water, to take appropriate actions to support Member States in the implementation of the second half of the Decade;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the activities planned by the Secretary-General and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system for the Decade.

66th plenary meeting
21 December 2009